Filling up of vacancies of High Court Judges

1625. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacancies in various High Courts in the country, State-wise and Bench-wise;

(b) the steps proposed to devise an efficient system to fill up such vacancies;

(c) whether any solution has been found for the mounting back-log of cases in the High Courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) A Statement showing the sanctioned strength, actual strength and vacancies of Judges/ Additional Judges in various High Courts of the country as on 20-3-1995 is enclosed (*See* below)

(b) The process of consultation among the concerned Constitutional authorities for filling up the existing vacancies is on.

(c) and (d) In order to consider the problem of arrears of cases in courts and find out ways and means to deal with it as expeditiously as possible, a meeting of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justics of the High Courts was held on 4th December, 1993. under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The resolutions adopted in the Conference have been commended to all the State Governments/UT Administrations and High Courts for necessary action. Further, the Administration of Justice has been made a plan item, with a view to remove infrastructural bottllenecks coming in the way of expeditious disposal of cases.

Statement

Details of Vacancies of judges in various High Courts

Sr. No.	High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	70	67	3
2	Andhra Pradesh	30	26	4
3	Bombay	54	40	14
4	Calcutta	48	35	13
5	Delhi	31	25	6
6	Gauhati	17	15	2
7	Gujarat	30	23	7
8	Himachal Pradesh	8	6	2
9	Jammu & Kashmir	11	9	2
10	Karnataka	30	26	4
11	Kerala	24	20	4

1	2	3	4	5
12	Madhya Pradesh	31	24	7
13	Madras	29	24	5
14	Orissa	15	12	3
15	Patna	37	31	6
16	Punjab & Haryana	37	31	6
17	Rajasthan	26	21	5
18	Sikkim	3	2	1
	TOTAL :	531	437	94

Pending dowry death cases

1626. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of dowry deaths and torture pending for disposal in various district courts of Surat, Baroda, Bharuch and Panchmahal districts and Gujarat High Court separately during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 till 31st October in 1994-95 district-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these pending cases are likely to be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Registry of the Gujarat High Court has informed that no separate record for Dowry deaths and torture cases is maintained by them. Information in respect of District Courts is given below:

Number of dowry deaths and torture cases pending in various District Courts

Name of District Court	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 & (upto 31-10-94.)
Surat	31	32	56	66
Baroda	27	40	48	121
Bharuch	4	10	10	12
Panchmahal	9	21	30	28

(b) The pendency of cases is due to various factors. Some of them are; increasing institution of cases, inadequacy of Judges strength and Assistant Public Prosecutors, non-serving of the summons, warrants & notices in time, Lawyers strike, etc.